DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE Aerospace Basic Course (AETC)

Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama 36112

LESSON PLAN

A1450, THE JFACC

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RECORD OF CHANGES

CHANGE NUMBER	REMARKS
New Lesson Plan	Supercedes ABC lesson 1320, dated 7 Aug 00

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

EDUCATIONAL GOALS

A1000 Area Objective: Apply aerospace power capabilities and officership principles to warfighting.

A1400 Phase Objective: Comprehend how Joint operations are planned and executed at the strategic and theater/operational levels.

A1450 - THE JFACC

Lesson Objective 1: Know the roles of the Joint Force Air Component Commander (JFACC) and the Commander, Air Force Forces (COMAFFOR).

Samples of Behavior:

- (R/S) 1.1 State the source of the JFACC's and COMAFFOR's authority.
- (R/S) 1.2 Define the functions and missions of the JFACC and COMAFFOR.
- (R/S) 1.3 List the command relationships exercised by the JFACC and COMAFFOR.

Lesson Objective 2: Know the history of the development of the JFACC concept.

Sample of Behavior:

(R/S) 2.1 - Summarize the evolution of justification for the JFACC concept, using examples from World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and Operation DESERT STORM.

Lesson Objective 3: Comprehend how centralized control of aerospace forces enhances theater operations.

Samples of Behavior:

(R/S) 3.1 - Summarize the JFACC's role in theater operations.

(R/S) 3.2 - Explain the other Services' views of the role of the JFACC and their impact on theater operations.

Lesson Description: This lesson explores the concept of centralized control of aerospace forces as it is embodied by the JFACC. The lesson includes a discussion of the JFACC's role in theater operations, and a brief look at our sister Services' views of the JFACC's role. To familiarize students with the evolution of justification for the JFACC concept, this lesson also focuses on several historical examples and non-examples of prototypical JFACCs.

Prerequisites: A1440, Deliberate and Crisis Action Planning

Preparation: Read A1450, The JFACC.

Read AFDD 1, pp. 67-71.

Optional: N/A

Rationale/Linkage: This lesson belongs to the A1400 Phase of instruction, which primarily focuses on Joint warfighting at the strategic and theater/operational levels. At the strategic level, the United States employs its Armed Forces as a Joint team to achieve national objectives. At the theater/operational level, this Joint team is organized into Unified Commands. Within the Unified Commands, Joint aerospace operations are commanded and controlled by a JFACC--the focus of this lesson. This lesson teaches how the JFACC embodies the concept of "centralized control, decentralized execution" of aerospace forces. Since this lesson considers sister Services' views of the JFACC concept, it is linked with A1420, Service Perspectives: Army/Navy/Marines. This lesson is also linked to A1460, Aerospace Power Command and Control, which covers the JFACC's duty location during theater operations (the AOC), and to the A1600 Phase of instruction, which primarily focuses on Joint aerospace warfighting at the theater/operational and tactical levels.

INSTRUCTIONAL PLAN

- 1. **TITLE AND LENGTH OF SEMINAR:** The JFACC (1:00)
- 2. **RELATION TO OTHER INSTRUCTION:** This lesson belongs to the A1400 Phase of instruction, which primarily focuses on Joint warfighting at the strategic and theater/ operational levels. At the strategic level, the United States employs its Armed Forces as a Joint team to achieve national objectives. At the theater/operational level, this Joint team is organized into Unified Commands. Within the Unified Commands, Joint aerospace operations are commanded and controlled by a JFACC--the focus of this lesson. This lesson teaches how the JFACC embodies the concept of "centralized control, decentralized execution" of aerospace forces. Since this lesson considers sister Services' views of the JFACC concept, it is linked to A1420, Service Perspectives: Army/Navy/Marines. This lesson is also linked to A1460, Aerospace Power Command and Control, which covers the JFACC's duty location during theater operations (the AOC), and to the A1600 Phase of instruction, which primarily focuses on Joint aerospace warfighting at the theater/operational and tactical levels.

3. GENERAL METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:

a. Presentation Method: Guided discussion

b. Time Outline:

Segment	Total	Description
Time	Time	
0:05	(0:05)	Introduction
0:15	(0:20)	MP I: JFACC and COMAFFOR Roles and
		Responsibilities
0:20	(0:40)	MP II: History of Centralized Control of
		Aerospace Forces
0:15	(0:55)	MP III: Service Perspectives on the JFACC
0:05	(1:00)	Conclusion

c. Instructor Preparation:

- Review the lesson plan.
- Read A1450, The JFACC.

- Read AFDD 1, pp. 67-71.
- Read Chapter II of Joint Pub 3-56.1, Command and Control for Joint Air Operations.

d. Instructional Aids/Handouts:

None

e. Student Preparation:

- Read A1450, The JFACC.
- Read AFDD 1, pp. 67-71.
- f. Strategy: This lesson is a guided discussion. The first main point covers the roles and responsibilities of the COMAFFOR and the JFACC. The questions in the lesson plan will help you guide the discussion and gauge whether the students understand the material presented in the assigned reading, but remind students to feel free to ask their own questions throughout, too. Keep the students engaged, but remember that even though the reading covers most of this material, the students themselves may not be experienced enough in these topics for the guided discussion format to work very effectively in all cases. If students have difficulty answering particular questions, be prepared to adjust your delivery technique to more of an informal lecture style. The second main point covers the historical examples and non-examples of centralized control of aerospace forces presented in the reading. The guided discussion format should work for this main point, as long as the level of detail remains at the level of the reading. The third main point focuses on the ways each Service perceives the JFACC, and how each Service contributes to the Joint team's air component. Again, the students may not be experienced enough in these topics for the guided discussion format to work very effectively, but the slides could be helpful in guiding students through the discussion, too. The bottom line of this lesson is that centralized control of aerospace power is a key factor to mission success, no matter what differences of opinion each Service brings to the Joint team.
- g. References: N/A

4. **DETAILS OF INSTRUCTION:**

a. Introduction: 0:05 (0:05)

[SLIDE]



1) //Attention//

Let's say that you're a CINC, and you have to fight a war in your area of responsibility. Your first concern might be, is all this talk about Joint operations just "lip service," or can you really manage to integrate Air Force aerospace power with Army, Navy, and Marine aerospace assets?

2) //Motivation//

As a CINC, you'd want to be absolutely certain that you can achieve centralized control of all air assets. As an Airman, today, you need to appreciate just how important it is to have centralized control of air assets in today's Joint environment. That's what we're going to discuss in this lesson.

3) //Overview//

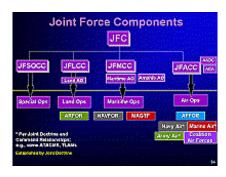


We'll begin by discussing what the JFACC is and the role he or she plays in theater operations. We'll also talk about another command position called the "Commander, Air Force Forces," or "COMAFFOR." We'll look at some historical non-examples and successful examples of why a JFACC is needed and how the JFACC concept came about. We'll also discuss how the other Services view the role of the JFACC and how they contribute to the JFACC's air operation as part of the Joint team. Let's begin!

b. MP I: The JFACC: 0:10 (0:15)

QUESTIONS

[SLIDE]



LEAD OFF QUESTION (LOQ): WHAT IS THE DEFINITION OF "JFACC"? WHO GIVES THE JFACC AUTHORITY?

ANTICIPATED RESPONSES (AR):

- Joint Force Air Component Commander (JFACC)
- JFACC designated by Joint Force Commander (JFC)
- JFC gives the JFACC OPCON over air assets assigned and attached to the Joint force, and TACON over other military forces made available for tasking

Overall, here's the big picture on where the JFACC falls in the chain of command: Falling directly under the JFC are the Joint Force Special Operations Component Commander (JFSOCC), Joint Force Land Component Commander (JFLCC), Joint Force Maritime Component Commander (JFMCC), and Joint Force Air Component Commander (JFACC). As indicated, JFSOCC is in charge of the Special Ops, JFLCC is in charge of land operations, JFMCC is in charge of maritime operations, and of course as you know the JFACC is in charge of all air operations. Under the JFLCC, there is also an Air Force representative down on

the ground with the Army troops making sure Air Force and Army soldiers coordinate properly, in order to prevent fratricide. The same concept applies to air operations: Under the control of the JFACC there are Navy, Marine, Army, and Air Force representatives all working together to ensure their assets and personnel are used properly. In the case of a multinational effort, there are also representatives from the Coalition Air Forces, and the JFACC is called a "Combined Force Air Component Commander," or "CFACC." But for simplicity, we'll refer to this position as the JFACC.

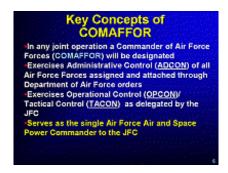
[SLIDE]



FOLLOW UP QUESTION (FUQ): WHAT IS THE JFACC'S ROLE IN JOINT OPERATIONS?

AR:

- Joint Pub 1-02 definition: Given responsibility to coordinate, plan, allocate, and task air assets based on the JFC's apportionment decision
- Responsible for control of air assets in a geographic Area of Responsibility (AOR)
- Given control of assigned and attached Air Force, Army, Navy, and Marine Corps air assets
- Provides unity of effort for employing air power



LOQ: WHAT IS A "COMAFFOR"? WHAT DOES THE COMAFFOR DO?

AR:

- The Commander of Air Force Forces (COMAFFOR) is the Air Force officer designated as commander of the Air Force component command assigned to a Joint Force Commander at the unified level, or at the Joint Task Force level
- The COMAFFOR serves as the single Air Force air and space power commander and exercises OPCON and TACON, as designated by the JFC

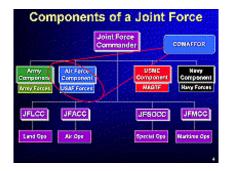
[SLIDE]



FUQ: WHICH AIR FORCE COMMANDER IN A UNIFIED COMMAND IS DESIGNATED AS THE COMAFFOR?

AR:

- Sometimes, each CINC's COMAFFOR is the associated Air Force MAJCOM Commander
 - For example, the Commander in Chief, US Pacific Command (USCINCPAC) COMAFFOR is the Commander, Pacific Air Forces (PACAF)
 - However, MAJCOM/CCs may delegate COMAFFOR authorities to the Numbered Air Force (NAF) commanders. For example, Commander, Air Combat Command (ACC) may delegate some authorities to Commander, 9th Air Force (9 AF), to act as COMAFFOR to USCINCCENT
- Additionally, the theater's COMAFFOR is <u>usually</u> designated as the JFACC by the JFC



FUQ: IS THE COMAFFOR THE ONLY OFFICER WHO CAN BE DESIGNATED A JFACC?

AR:

- No!
- Normally, the JFACC is, indeed, the senior Air Force commander
- However, if operations are being conducted in a predominantly maritime environment, the JFC may designate a Navy officer as the JFACC. In this case, he or she is called the "JFACC afloat"

Naval Carrier Battle Groups are usually stationed strategically throughout the world at all times. Since this is so, a Naval commander might be tasked to be a "JFACC Afloat" for the initial stages of an emerging operation (for instance, the initial response to a crisis), until the JFC can appoint another JFACC.

[SLIDE]



LOQ: IF THE IDEAS ON THIS SLIDE ARE TRUE, SHOULD THE JFACC ALWAYS BE AN AIRMAN? WHY, OR WHY NOT?

AR:

- No: If in a maritime environment, the JFC will normally designate a Naval commander who is more familiar with maritime operations
- Yes: Aerospace operations are the primary mission of Airmen

{Instructor Note: This question is intended to keep students thinking about the "Airman's Perspective." For instance, students might spend a few moments debating whether a JFACC Afloat <u>could</u> be considered as an "Airman."}

[SLIDE]



FUQ: IS THE JFACC A SUPPORTED OR SUPPORTING COMMANDER?

AR:

- Both!
- Supporting commander for counterland operations or maritime operations
- Supported commander for counterair operations, strategic attack, theater airborne reconnaissance and surveillance, and the interdiction effort

{Instructor Note: These are typical command relationships. However, Lesson A3060, Operation ALLIED FORCE, covers the fact that in ALLIED FORCE, the air component was employed as the supported force pursuing the coalition's counterland objectives. If students raise this issue here, mention that the air component traditionally supports a ground force when conducting counterland operations. However, Operation ALLIED FORCE illustrates the need for doctrine to cover situations when there is no ground force to pursue counterland objectives.}



FUQ: WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE JFACC IN THEATER OPERATIONS?

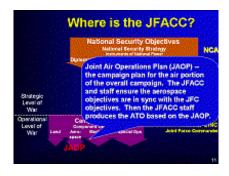
AR:

- Recommends apportionment to the JFC
- Plans, coordinates, allocates, and tasks Joint air operations, based on JFC apportionment of air assets
- Develops the Joint Air Operations Plan (JAOP)
- Evaluates results of Joint air operations
- May also perform duties of Airspace Control Authority (ACA) and Area Air Defense Commander (AADC), as assigned by the JFC

Remember the Z-diagram: Ultimately, Joint operations originate from National Security Objectives and the resulting National Security Strategy (NSS). From the NSS, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff turns national objectives and strategies into the military objectives and strategies, which then are published in the National Military Strategy (NMS). Based on the NMS, the theater CINCs prepare plans during Deliberate Planning--and if war is imminent, the involved CINC develops campaign plans and Operational Orders during Crisis Action Planning. The CINC establishes objectives and strategies for the campaign. Based on these, each component commander (JFLCC, JFACC, JFMCC, and JFSOCC) must come up with the objectives and strategies for each component of the Joint force.

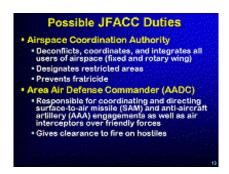
[BUILD]

For instance, the JFACC turns the aerospace portion of the campaign plan into the JAOP.



The JAOP is the campaign plan for the air portion of the overall campaign. The JFACC and staff ensure the aerospace objectives are in sync with the JFC's campaign objectives. Then, based on the JAOP, the JFACC's staff produces Air Tasking Orders (ATOs), which you'll study in more detail in Lesson A1630, Air Tasking Order (ATO). ATOs are document that outline daily mission taskings for air assets. The JFACC sends them to Wing Operation Centers (WOCs) for execution.

[SLIDE]



FUQ: WHAT IS THE "ACA" AND "AADC"?

AR:

- Airspace Control Authority
 - Deconflicts, coordinates, and integrates all users of airspace
 - Prevents fratricide
- Area Air Defense Commander
 - Responsible for coordinating and directing surface-to-air missile (Patriot missile battalions, Aegis air defenses on ships) and anti-aircraft artillery (AAA) engagements as well as air interceptors over friendly forces
 - Gives clearance to fire on hostiles

FUQ: WHY SHOULD THE JFACC ALSO BE ASSIGNED THE ROLE OF ACA AND AADC?

AR:

- They are all interrelated to air operations and should be assigned to one individual concerned with theater air forces and air operations
- Complete air picture and air strategy under one commander
- Prevent mutual interference and wasted resources
- Prevent fratricide

FUQ: WHY DO YOU THINK IT'S IMPORTANT TO HAVE A JFACC?

AR:

- To provide centralized control of theater aerospace assets
- To provide a coordinated "big picture" perspective for aerospace operations
- To ensure Joint synergy for achieving JFC objectives

FUQ: WHY IS IT IMPORTANT FOR THE JFACC TO HAVE OPCON OF ASSIGNED FORCES?

AR:

• JFACC must be able to direct and commit forces when necessary without dispute from other commanders

FUQ: HOW DOES THE JFACC PUT THE CAMPAIGN PLAN INTO ACTION?

AR:

- Provides the air capability portion of the plan
- This often provides options for battle prior to implementing ground forces

INTERIM SUMMARY (Instructor Note):

- 1. Include students' ideas that support main points.
- 2. Add new information as necessary.
- 3. Reinforce key elements that will be needed throughout the lesson.

(TRANSITION): NOW THAT WE KNOW WHAT THE JFACC IS, LET'S DISCUSS HOW THIS CONCEPT CAME ABOUT AND THE IMPORTANCE OF IT IN THEATER OPERATIONS.

c. MP II: History of Centralized Control of Aerospace Forces: 0:25 (0:40)

LOQ: FROM THE READING, WHICH THREE HISTORICAL NON-EXAMPLES GRAPHICALLY ILLUSTRATED WHY A SINGLE JFACC IS NECESSARY FOR SUCCESS?

AR:

- The Kasserine Pass (World War II)
- The Korean War
- The Vietnam War

FUQ: WHAT HAPPENED IN THE NORTH AFRICAN THEATER IN WORLD WAR II--PARTICULARLY AT THE KASSERINE PASS?

[SLIDE]



AR:

- Allied air forces weren't centrally controlled; squadrons distributed to army units for dedicated support and couldn't mass
- Luftwaffe WAS centrally controlled and dominated--led to Allied defeat

FUQ: HOW WAS AIRPOWER CONTROLLED DURING THE KOREAN WAR, AND WHAT IMPACT DID THAT HAVE ON OPERATIONS?

[SLIDE]



AR:

- Multiple air commanders with no central control of air assets
- Land and air efforts were not coordinated

FUQ: HOW WAS AIRPOWER CONTROLLED DURING THE VIETNAM WAR, AND WHAT IMPACT DID THAT HAVE ON OPERATIONS?



AR:

- Multiple air commanders as in Korea (we didn't learn)
- Nightmare command structure and difficulty in coordination

FUQ: FROM THE READING, WHO WERE TWO HISTORICAL EXAMPLES OF "PROTOTYPICAL" JFACCS?

AR:

- Brig Gen Billy Mitchell (at St Mihiel, World War I, 1918)
- Gen George Kenney (in the Southwest Pacific Area, World War II, 1942-45)

FUQ: HOW WAS BRIGADIER GENERAL BILLY MITCHELL SUCCESSFUL?

[SLIDE]



AR:

- Had all US and French air forces in sector under his centralized control
- Developed a time-phased operations plan and prioritized target lists for the St Mihiel Offensive, which paralyzed the enemy

FUQ: HOW WAS GENERAL GEORGE KENNEY SUCCESSFUL?



AR:

- Kenney had all US air assets in expansive Southwest Pacific under his centralized control
- Air operations were highly-coordinated Joint and Combined (Allied) efforts

FUQ: FROM THE READING, WHO WAS THE FIRST JFACC, AND HOW WAS HE SUCCESSFUL?

[SLIDE]



AR:

- Lt Gen Chuck Horner (in Operation DESERT STORM, 1991)
 - Had all Coalition airpower in theater under his centralized control
 - Single Air Tasking Order and systematic campaign strategy paralyzed Iraq

INTERIM SUMMARY (Instructor Note):

- 1. Include students' ideas that support main points.
- 2. Add new information as necessary.
- 3. Reinforce key elements that will be needed throughout the lesson.

(TRANSITION): NOW, LET'S FOCUS ON TODAY'S JOINT TEAM. LET'S TALK ABOUT THE WAYS EACH SERVICE PERCEIVES THE JFACC, AND HOW EACH SERVICE CONTRIBUTES TO THE JOINT TEAM'S AIR COMPONENT.

d. MP III: Service Perspectives on the JFACC: 0:15 (0:55)

FUQ: HOW DOES THE AIR FORCE CONTRIBUTE TO THE JFACC?

[SLIDE]



AR:

 AIR FORCE--send Expeditionary Air Forces to theater, performs the six AF Core Competencies

FUQ: HOW DOES THE ARMY CONTRIBUTE TO THE JFACC?

[SLIDE]



AR:

• ARMY--Provides surface-to-air defense capability for theater area (Patriot) and gives up organic aviation and fire assets for interdiction beyond Army boundaries, including Army Tactical Missile Systems (ATACMS)

FUQ: HOW DOES THE NAVY CONTRIBUTE TO THE JFACC?



AR:

• NAVY--After providing for fleet defense, provides surface-to-air defense capability for theater area (Aegis) and makes excess sorties available, including Tomahawk Land Attack Missiles (TLAMs) used beyond the Fire Support Coordination Line (FSCL)

FUQ: HOW DOES THE MARINE CORPS CONTRIBUTE TO THE JFACC?

[SLIDE]



AR:

 MARINES--After satisfying fire support requirements (primarily CAS) for the Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF), the Marines make sorties available for CAS, air defense, and long-range interdiction and reconnaissance

FUQ: INCIDENTALLY, HOW DOES THE JOINT FORCE SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMPONENT CONTRIBUTE TO THE JFACC?

AR:

• Joint Force Special Operations Component Commander (JFSOCC)--Provides air assets for economy of force, surgical ops, synergistic attack, and air campaign enhancements

FUQ: BASED ON DOCTRINAL DIFFERENCES, HOW MIGHT THE SISTER SERVICES VIEW THE JFACC?

AR:

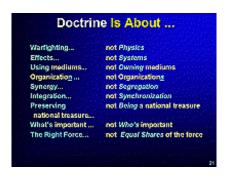
- In the past, sister Services sometimes held the following views:
 - JFACC shouldn't be a "commander" but rather a "coordinator" or "planner"
 - JFACC might not realize the full operational capability of assets
 - JFACC might use assets inappropriately, putting lives at an unnecessary risk

FUQ: WHY IS IT IMPORTANT FOR AIRMEN TO KNOW THE OTHER SERVICES' PERSPECTIVES ABOUT THE JFACC?

AR:

- JFACC should understand the other Services' concerns
- JFACC should understand sister Service roles in overall campaign and how they differ from AF roles
- JFACC should respect what each Service brings to the Joint fight

[SLIDE]



Here is the bottom line: No matter what differences exist between the Services, the goal of the Joint force is to achieve national objectives. This slide helps put differences in Service points of view in the proper light, so we can overcome them and serve together as an effective Joint team.

e. Conclusion: 0:05 (1:00)



1) //Summary//

We've just spent the last hour discussing how Joint air operations are commanded and controlled, through the JFACC. The JFACC is the key to achieving the aerospace objectives for the campaign plan. In today's military it is vitally important that you understand how joint operations work. We are a Joint force--a "purple" force--all working together. Airmen will most likely command the air portion of that Joint force.

2) //Remotivation//

Command and control of airpower in theater operations is paramount to successful accomplishment of national objectives. The JFACC's role in commanding airpower forces will both enable and enhance Joint operations throughout the campaign.

3) //Closure//

You yourself may be called to be a JFACC someday! Will you be ready?